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A society incorporated in 1933 for the preservation of the best examples of the architecture of the province, and for the protection of its places of natural beauty.

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Conference and Annual Meeting Report

FROM THE GROUND UP, PRESERVING ONTARIO'S TOWNS & NEIGHBOURHOODS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

The conference was held on Friday and Saturday, April 23 and 24, 1993 at Port Hope United Church. Of necessity, due to space limitations, we will mention briefly the speakers and topics. It is ACO's intention to publish the proceedings of this year's conference next year in time for the next conference in April 1994.

Julia Beck, President of ACO, opened the conference by outlining the aims and objectives of the sessions. Mrs. Beck thanked the Ontario Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation (OMCTR), Anne Swarbrick, Minister, for a grant towards the expenses of the conference. Part time co-ordinator, Alfred Holden was introduced.

ONTARIO'S STRUGGLE FOR A BROADER VISION IN PLANNING

The keynote speaker, Michael Valpy, columnist at the *Globe and Mail* was introduced by Howard Levine, Councillor for the City of Toronto.

Mr. Valpy set the scene for the conference by stating that the place we call *home* remains an anchor in our lives as we journey through an ever stranger and more complicated world.

Mr. Valpy quoted American writer Tony Hiss who questions why there is no guarantee that we will be able to show our children the places we knew as children.

He related the disturbing visit to his boyhood home in Vancouver, only to find it had been demolished to make way for a much larger "monster" house. It is not just older homes he spoke of but "the health of communities" and "the preservation of childhood places that sustain us psychologically".

Mr. Valpy acknowledged that the conservancy has been advocating the preservation of the built heritage for 60

years. He stated that the war is over, but that there are still battles to be won and developers who promote "soulless development are on the defensive".

The work of David Crombie and his "Vision for the Toronto Waterfront" and John Sewell on "The Future of Planning" were cited, as examples of "Royal Commission Reports that define our communities, spiritually, esthetically, humanly and translate those feelings into plans we can live by."

A few examples from the U.S. of what to do and how to do were mentioned. Of particular interest was that the "government of Rhode Island announced five years ago that the people of the state had only a few years left to save publicly desirable land from suburbanization. Within two years, a coalition of environment groups had launched the largest per capita open-space financing programme in the United States. Through referenda and local municipal initiatives, they raised \$126 million to buy up undeveloped land and preserve it for the common good".

Here in Ontario a similar plan is being put into place with the preservation of the Rouge River Valley Watershed.

Mr. Valpy stated that, "for 60 years, you (ACO) have been the moral conscience of our built environment, the defenders of our old stones, of the childhood places that give us psychological sustenance, of the ideological sustenance of healthy habitat."

INTENSIFICATION IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

The afternoon session began with opening remarks by Mark Warrack, Heritage Co-ordinator, City of Mississauga. Mark alluded to the fact that civic attitude towards preservation is a problem. Municipal Councils, staff and the public as well as a whole community needs to share the same attitude. The big question is, how do you manage change?

Mr. Warrack stressed the importance of media coverage of planning issues. He felt LACACs should be strengthened and able to influence planning. He recommended we all read a book entitled "Saving America's Countryside - A Guide to Preserving Rural Countryside", published by the Hudson Institute. He suggested what was needed was a designation process that

fell somewhere between individual designations and heritage district designation.

INTENSIFICATION'S PROSPECTS AND PITFALLS

Robert Shipley, consultant, PhD candidate at the School of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Waterloo, spoke of the need for guidelines to encourage change and still preserve buildings. He stated urban sprawl is not acceptable and a heritage/environmental approach is needed in the planning process along with a periodic review of a municipality's Official Plan. Mr. Shipley stated that developers realize that there are greater profits to be gained by redeveloping than in "greenfields" development, due to the ever increasing cost of new infrastructure, as opposed to using existing ones. He stated intensification is coming and suggested we think about the whole community rather than individual buildings.

INFILL IN PLACE - SOME OTTAWA CASE STUDIES

Angela Carr, Assistant Professor of Art History at the School for Studies of Art and Culture, Carleton University, gave an illustrated lecture on some examples of infill in Ottawa. Her slides were of an award winning house at 94 Flora and another house at 60 Crichton. An interesting infill project at 10-70 Henderson Street, belonging to the University of Ottawa, was created when all the houses were joined together to make a row. This complex is located mid block behind a mall. The infill had the effect of making all the backyards of the houses disappear.

RELOCATION: A CASE STUDY

Janet Fayle and Dr. David Fayle, Fayle Associates, Heritage Consultants, described the relocation of the Phillips-Newberry House in Richmond Hill. Built in 1830, with major renovations in 1916, the house stood on the PickSeed Industrial property. It had to be moved and fortunately an interested buyer and a piece of land became available. Their slides illustrated the move, which attracted many of the town's inhabitants.

MAKING SPACE: EXTENDING OLDER STRUCTURES

Elizabeth Ingolfsrud, author and Chair, Etobicoke Historical Board, spoke about and showed slides of additions to the houses in the Kingsway Park area of Toronto. The houses in this area are quite large on generous lots and tend to date from the 1910s to the 1940s. The building styles are Edwardian and Tudor Revival. When additions were planned, the owners often chose an architect to design something that fitted in with the style of the house.

PROTECTING HERITAGE BUILDINGS

Michael Vaughan, a lawyer with Fraser and Beatty Solicitors, spoke about protecting heritage buildings and context from unfriendly infill. He outlined, in chart form, on overheads, how legal strategies could be used to achieve the desired result. For example: under the Planning Act bylaws can be written to control the character of a building. Site plan controls are easier to deal with than zoning. He pointed out the need to prepare design guidelines.

The tools for maintaining controls of a streetscape could be the OMB (Ontario Municipal Board) that hold hearings to settle disputes over development/re-development. Restrictive covenants are another tool, such as the one imposed on the Kingsdale Park (Toronto) area by Holmes Smith who would only allow a certain design of house to be built in the area.

RECEPTION-BLUESTONE HOUSE

The Bluestone House, at 21 Dorset Street E., the home of Don and Joan Rumgay, owners/publishers of Century Home Magazine, was the site of the reception on Friday evening. This elegant 1834 Georgian house built by John David Smith has been completely restored on the interior and exterior by the Rumgays. It was indeed a treat to see the house and get a chance to speak to other conference participants and ACO members, executive and Advisory Board members.

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

The second session on Saturday, April 24, was introduced by Ken Doherty, Manager, Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives. Home, neighbourhood, and community are the key words to remember. We must think of the sum total of our inheritance both natural and man made. He advised that community pride and community heritage are key factors in what direction we go in the future. He briefly discussed sustainable development, which is development that meets the needs of the present, without the need to compromise the needs of the future. He stressed the necessity of:

- *anticipating what might occur in an area ready for redevelopment*
- *doing a full cost accounting*
- *making informed decisions*
- *choosing quality of development over quantity*

WHAT ONTARIO TOWNS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS MIGHT LOOK LIKE TOMORROW

George Penfold is a member of the Commission on Planning and Development Reform in Ontario. The draft report of the commission has been prepared. Mr. Penfold spoke of there not being a set of common values. He posed the questions:

- *how do we deal with our inheritance in a positive way?*
- *what is important, aggregates, flood plains, wet lands?*

He mentioned that:

- *design guidelines were needed to control site alterations*
- *no means no, especially where ecologically sensitive areas are involved*
- *if a local government does something that is not in keeping with the Provincially shared values, funds should be available to groups to go to the OMB*
- *more consultation on policy is needed*
- *focus on process - how would a homeowner influence planning for his property?*
- *we rely too much on the OMB; fight it out at the local level*
- *the Province now approves Regional and County plans - local plans need local approval*
- *municipalities could create Planning Boards and do their own plans*

- *urban sprawl is not sustainable, too much farmland is used*

"The future will look like what you choose it to look like."

NATURAL HERITAGE AND THE PROSPECTS FOR OPEN SPACE IN THE AGE OF INTENSIFICATION

David Thomson of David Thomson Landscape Design Inc., stated that intensification is a cultural change, but we need the freedom to pursue our own individuality.

Open space takes many forms such as the town or village common, alleys, linear parks, major and minor (tot lots) parks.

Mr. Thomson stated land is finite. That many of our larger parks are grossly underused. Infill might well result in smaller front yards and the key to success is imaginative design. We must learn to use every square foot of non built on space.

SUPPLEMENTARY OPEN SPACE SYSTEMS

Pleasant Crawford is a Garden Historian in Toronto. She cited the importance and popularity of a cemetery as a public open space, particularly large ones such as Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Toronto.

PARKING: MEETING MODERN NEEDS WITHOUT SACRIFICING PEDESTRIAN SCALE AND HISTORIC STREETScape

Wendy Schearer, landscape architect, had a number of suggestions:

- *integrate parking with streetscapes*
- *cars should not be parked on soil over tree roots - resulting in soil compaction thus killing the tree*
- *rear yard, garages or alley parking could be a solution*
- *shared driveways reduce parking space requirements*
- *tandem parking beyond the building line reduces the need for a double width driveway*
- *designate one street in a neighbourhood as an overnight parking street*
- *hedging is a good visual barrier for parked cars*
- *use concrete strips or paving stones placed at the right width to accommodate the car's wheels and let the grass grow between the strips*

WALKING TOUR OF PORT HOPE

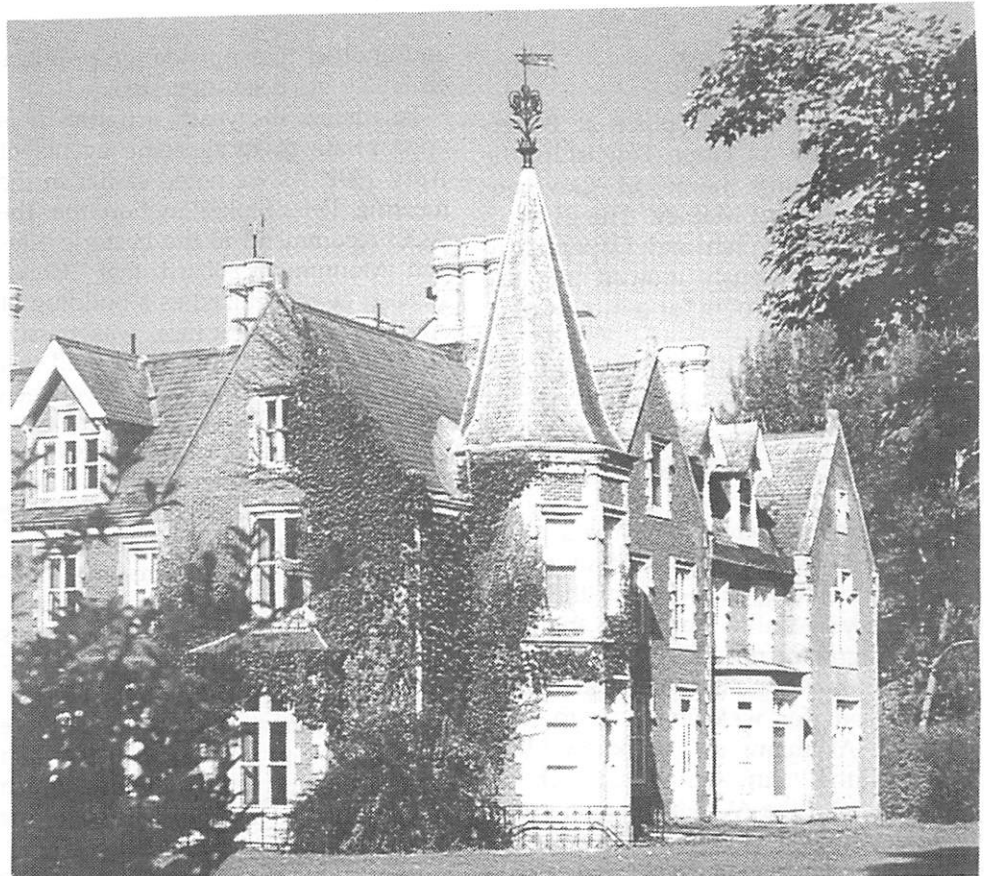
The conference package included a Walking Tour of Downtown Port Hope, and a street map. It was a self-guiding tour, very well detailed with historical and architectural information plus clear directions.

A bus tour was also available conducted by Marion Garland, for those who preferred to ride in the company of Port Hope's expert on historic buildings.

The tour concentrated mostly on Walton Street, the premier historic street in Port Hope. Port Hope is an architectural gem, not only on the main street but on a number of side streets as well. Here you can see examples of architecture that some of us can only dream about in our own municipalities.

The Capitol Theatre was part of the tour (see article on it under Port Hope Branch in this issue).

Tea at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church ended the tour. It was a special treat to see the attractive church painted in beautiful colours to emphasize the interior architectural features. The Sunday School was very pleasant in its soft colours of grey and yellow. Peter Stokes was the Consulting Restoration Architect for the colour scheme.



Cruickston Park Mansion
University of Guelph Brochure

port. Cruickston is located near the Village of Blair (Cambridge). The grounds consist of barns, out buildings, several houses, a mansion and some designated

historical background and family history of the occupants of Cruickston. He also presented slides of photographs of the interior of the house when the family lived in the home.

The mansion was begun in 1856 by William Ashton, but he could not complete it. The partially finished house and 200 acres were purchased by Matthew Wilks who had married Eliza Astor Langdon, granddaughter of John Jacob Astor of New York. Charles Platt, a New York architect, was engaged to complete the house.

A daughter, Kathryn Landon Wilks, inherited the property and expanded it and bred renowned standardbred horses.

Mrs. Wilks died in 1948 and her nephew, Matthew Wilks Keefer took over Cruickston. He died in 1971 and prior to his death had willed the property to the university. It became their property upon the death of Mrs. Keefer in 1990.



House in Port Hope, built in 1846, in the Tudor Style

Rosemary Rowe

ANNUAL MEETING DINNER AND SPEAKERS

The dinner took place at Osler Hall, Trinity College School. The after dinner speakers were Bill Moffet and David Emberly. The topic was Cruickston Park. This is a large estate owned by the University of Guelph. The estate comprises some 1000 acres, five minutes from Highway 401 and fifty minutes west of Pearson International Air

Environmentally Sensitive Policy Areas.

The University of Guelph is in the process of studying what the future holds for Cruickston. The ACO has produced two reports on the estate and given them to the university.

Bill Moffet showed slides of the estate and described the architecture of the buildings, particularly the 1856-1873 mansion.

David Emberly spoke in detail of the

Annual Meeting

The meeting took place at Batterwood House, in Hope Township, the former country home of Governor General Vincent Massey. The estate is now owned by Ian and Daphne Angus, who generously allowed us to use the large living room for our meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 25TH APRIL 1993 AT PORT HOPE, ONTARIO

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a privilege and pleasure to present my report to this meeting. On behalf of the Conservancy I want to thank Mr. and Mrs. Ian Angus for not simply allowing us to hold our annual meeting at Batterwood but for welcoming us to their home. As many of you know, 1993 marks the 60th Anniversary of the founding of the ACO by a small group of determined people from across the province. Their concern and vision were far ahead of their time and are a challenge to us today. At the June meeting of Council last year we decided to celebrate this anniversary by initiating a series of bus tours along heritage highways and by publishing a book based on the Eric Arthur collection of photographs now in the Provincial Archives.

The ACO at both the provincial and the branch level has a long history of bus tours. This new series which has been referred to as "Hidden Treasures" because the tours will explore highways which are often forgotten as, short of time, we dash along 401 or other highways in the 400 series. They will also give those who are willing to take three days off from the pressures of life an opportunity to explore the interior of important buildings, including some which are seldom open to the public, and, not to be overlooked, they will raise money for the ACO.

The first tour, along Hwy 3 Windsor to Aylmer with diversions to Amherstburg and London, on June 3rd to June 6th has been well advertised in ACORN. The success of this tour - in fact, of almost everything we undertake - depends partly on the hard work of a committee and partly on the response of members. If this year's tours are a success we may offer something more ambitious in the future. One tour along an Ontario heritage highway

and another tour outside the province each year has been suggested.

To review the year's activities it is appropriate to recall some events of April 1992. As we noted earlier in the meeting, Peter Stokes' motion, that the ACO recommend to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board that "Chiefswood" be recognized as a building of architectural significance, was passed on to the Historic Sites Board and this action led to a series of letters between the Hon. Jean Charest, Minister of the Environment, the Hon. Joe Clarke, then Minister for Inter-Provincial Relations, and your president. Towards the end of the year "Chiefswood" was designated by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board as a building of architectural significance. I am convinced this was, in part, the result of the ACO actions. The plaque has yet to be erected. When it is unveiled we shall be there to rejoice with the Six Nations and with the Brant County Branch which has also played a significant role in the restoration of "Chiefswood".

Would that the letters I wrote to the Hon. Karen Haslam, Minister of Culture and Communications, MPP Gary Wilson, Chair of the Minister's Advisory Committee on New Heritage Legislation, and, on the advice of the Ministry, to MPPs in the London area had been equally successful! These letters concerned recommendations from the ACO on new heritage legislation and on Designated Property Grants. At the beginning of this week I was informed that the Minister is still discussing the new heritage legislation with the Opposition critics. With their support in principle, drafting of the Act will start with the hope that it will go to the Provincial Legislature in the Fall. At the same time I was informed that funds to support Designated Property Grants are still in the Ministry's budget.

I also refer to another event in April 1992 - the conference on "Vernacular Architecture in Ontario" which immediately preceded the AGM. As you know, it was the subject of a theme issue of ACORN and the proceedings of the conference have just been published as Monograph 2 of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. Many of you will recall the Rogue's Hollow was published in 1983 as Monograph 1 (both publications are on sale today). We hope to do a little better than produce one monograph every ten years.

1993 is thus the second year in

which the AGM has been immediately preceded by a major conference. Council has now approved recommendations from the Programme Development Committee for the themes and locations of conference for the next five years. Before we go ahead we shall look critically at the 1992 and 1993 meetings to learn from our experience. Has the AGM suffered or been improved as a result of being "coupled with a conference"? We welcome your comments. We expect next year's meetings to be in Cambridge with the themes "When a House is not a Home" and "A Gift to Last" (the future of great houses which can no longer be used for private homes and the wisdom of owners bequeathing these buildings to municipalities and institutions).

For the last three years, presidents have referred in their annual reports to a house we now know as the Skinner/Jackson house in Camden East. I assume that everyone here today knows that the house was purchased for restoration and resale, and is aware too, that it came on the market at the beginning of the recession and the best offer to purchase was more than \$60,000 below the amount we had invested in purchase, renovation and restoration. At the time of the last annual meeting, I, and other members of the ACO, found the whole Camden East story depressing, even if we would not admit it.

Now it is turning into a success story. We have tried to keep you informed of developments through Council News and President's Reports in ACORN so you may know that in October 1992 it was leased for eight months, at a nominal rent, to a cabinet maker who agreed to build in kitchen cabinets, finish the floors and complete the interior painting. The ACO has covered the cost of materials, the tenant has supplied the materials and the work is now nearly complete. Council has been delighted with the quality of the work and the interest the tenant, Randy Rhem, has shown in the project. We have been delighted, too, with the response to the fund-raising appeal for the Skinner/Jackson house. Almost \$4,000 has been donated and contributions are still coming in. The appeal will remain open until June 15th when the lease expires. We anticipate that the cost of finishing the interior of the house will be approximately \$5,000. I thank not only those who responded to

the appeal for funds but the Quinte and Port Hope branches which have donated labour to the project and Robert Bury Ltd. who made some of the building materials available at a special price.

And what are our plans for the Skinner/Jackson house now? Council has given the Executive Committee authority to negotiate a new lease with the tenant on the condition that he live in the back part of the house, leaving the front four rooms available for a short-term lease - a month, a week, or a week-end. This will allow us to test if there is an interest among members and the public in renting a heritage holiday cottage - a scheme similar to those that exist in Britain through The National Trust and in other parts of the world. Thus, the fact that we could not carry out our original plans to sell the house at a profit and re-invest the funds may lead to a new initiative for the ACO and a new way of conserving some of Ontario's vernacular buildings.

The house is now almost "fully furnished", thanks to a major loan of furniture, and rents for a weekend, a week, and a month have been fixed: \$150 per 2-day weekend; \$250 per public holiday weekend; \$400 per week; and \$700 per month. We would welcome the donation or loan of small items such as bed linen, blankets, dishes, cutlery, folding beds or drapes.

I shall now refer to other Council activities, more briefly. The Skinner/Jackson house was discussed in detail not only because it is an important project but because objectives related to the not-so-little house have sometimes been misunderstood.

FUND RAISING

A number of small fund-raising events, such as bus tours and the silent auction associated with the 1993 conference and AGM, are planned for this year. We have applied for a grant of \$30,000 over three years from the Bronfman Foundation to assist the ACO in developing recommendations from the conference "From The Ground Up". Later in the year we plan to market a "cash calendar", a proposal introduced by Rod Angevaare. It will include photographs of buildings associated with the Branches and Council, draw attention to ACO events and include major draws in January and December and smaller draws in other

months. Similar projects developed by other organizations have raised significant funds.

REORGANIZATION OF THE OFFICE

The reorganization approved by Council has started. As noted by the treasurer, bookkeeping is now being done by a bookkeeping service at a very reasonable charge. In accordance with a decision of Council in January 1992, we are planning to make a more senior part-time appointment in the near future; the job description and responsibilities are now being developed. The position will, of course, be advertised.

REVISION OF BY-LAW 1

Following a recommendation from the 1991 AGM the By-Law has been written in inclusive language. A number of other changes, approved by Council and by our legal counsel, have been brought to today's meeting for confirmation.

VISITS TO BRANCHES

I have enjoyed speaking to Branches in Brant County, Hamilton, Oxford County, Toronto and London (although in London, for some reason, I felt as though I was speaking to myself). Next year, if this meeting sees fit to re-elect me, I shall look forward to visiting the remaining branches. These visits, sometimes formal and sometimes informal, are a long-standing tradition and, like the President's meetings, help to maintain good communications between Branches and Council.

PRESIDENTS' MEETINGS

The first meeting of Branch Presidents was held in April 1991. It provided an opportunity for presidents to discuss matters which time constraints preclude from Council Meetings and was so successful that these meetings are now being held twice each year. Following a recommendation from the November 1992 Presidents' Meeting, two Council meetings this year will be held outside Toronto.

In my estimation, the ACO is working more closely with other provincial organisations - for example, the ACO and the Ontario Historical Society are co-sponsoring two workshops on pre-

serving Ontario's industrial heritage. The first workshop in Sault Ste. Marie was held yesterday, the second, in Cornwall, is scheduled for October. I was pleased when Howard Chapman agreed to represent us on a Working Group set up early in 1993 by the Ministry of Housing and the Ministry of Culture and Communications to prepare for 1995 revisions to the Ontario Building Code.

1992-93 has been a busy and satisfying year. Several long-standing projects have moved towards completion and other projects have been initiated. None of this would have been possible without the support of a dedicated Executive Committee and help from other members of Council. In particular, I thank Alec Keefer, Senior Vice-President, who worked with me as co-editor of the papers from the conference on Vernacular Architecture in Ontario and on nearly every other Council project. When pressure was on, his wit and resilience made life bearable. It has been a pleasure, too, to work with Margaret Goodbody, our extremely capable and reliable secretary, and with Debra Farrell who took on the responsibilities of treasurer in September and soon found ways of making treasurers' reports more intelligible to laymen (or should I say laypeople?). I thank, too, Rod Angevaare, Vice-President, who in his first year on Council has made major contributions to the Camden East project and to the Fund-Raising Committee, and many others who have taken on special responsibilities including, Nicholas Hill, Chairman of the Publications Committee; Margaret Rowell, who continues to give her time and expertise as editor of ACORN although she is now president of North Waterloo Branch; Bill Greer, Chairman of the Advisory Board; the local organising committee for the AGM, especially A.K. Sculthorpe and Catherine Ramsey; Bill Moffet who was dinner speaker last night on the important topic of Cruickston Park Farm; Spencer Higgins, who is not here today because he was the keynote speaker at the workshop co-sponsored by the ACO and the OHS in Sault Ste. Marie yesterday; and my husband, Alan - without his help in producing the copy-ready material, the proceedings of the conference on Vernacular in Ontario would not have been ready for sale at the meetings this weekend (I am sorry that he could not be here today - he is at

tending meetings in England). I also thank Ann Hughson, who has continued to carry on the day-to-day work in the office in a time of change, and Alfred Holden, who gave his time generously as co-ordinator of the conference "From the Ground Up".

Despite the dedication of a small group of people we are failing to address important issues such as increasing membership and providing more publicity for the ACO. Even the planned Eric Arthur book depends on finding people to convert a concept into a publication. For two good reasons more Branch members should serve on Council committees: first, Council members cannot do everything that needs to be done; and second, it would be foolish for them to try. That could re-establish the distinction between Branch and Council, between "us" and "them" which was once common but is now rare, thanks to Presidents' Meetings and other activities.

So, if you are asked to serve on Council committee say "Yes" or find someone else who could serve in your place.

Julia Beck

BUSINESS MEETING

The required business of an annual meeting was conducted. Roy Turner presented the Report of the Nominating Committee. The only change is in the Members at Large, Joyce Sowby replaces Shawn Steepe.

Two motions were passed at the meeting. They were:

- *The Annual General Meeting of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc. asks that a committee be struck to review the presentations, committees and recommendations of the 1993 conference, and to formulate general principles which can be put forward to municipalities with regard to land use intensification.*
Moved: A.K. Sculthorpe
Seconded: Joyce Sowby
- *The following amendment was proposed by Isobel Ganton and seconded by Margaret Zavaros: That the committee limit itself to those matters which were the topic of the conference.*
The Motion was carried as Amended.

BRANCH REPORTS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Branches were asked to give reports on the conference topic or on an issue at their local level that the branch had been dealing with.

HURON COUNTY

John Rutledge, President, gave an overview of the branch activities. A house and farm tour took place in Huron County. Lynne DiStefano will speak in the fall to the group on Ontario Cottages.

HERITAGE CAMBRIDGE

Lynda Schneider, President, gave a brief talk on the efforts of the branch to include Heritage Protective Areas as part of the Official Plan of the Region of Waterloo.

BRANT COUNTY

Bill Darfler, President, spoke about the successful relocation of the 1835 evergreen Lodge (see ACORN XVII 4 Winter 1992). They had excellent cooperation from the developer, David Van Elslander, who had purchased the property on which the house stood in Cainsville, now part of the City of Brantford. Mr. Darfler advised to get into the negotiation process with a developer at a very early stage.

WATERLOO REGION

Marg Rowell, President, gave an illustrated talk on Castle Kilbride in Baden, the Italianate house built for James Livingston in 1874. The imposing structure has been purchased by the Township of Wilmot. Slides of the interior showed trompe l'oeil paintings on the ceiling and walls of the house. The municipality intends to restore the house and furnish part of it. The Wil-



Castle Kilbride, Baden, 1874.

Dennis Cannon

mot LACAC will have their office in it. Behind the house a new municipal office will be constructed.

TORONTO REGION

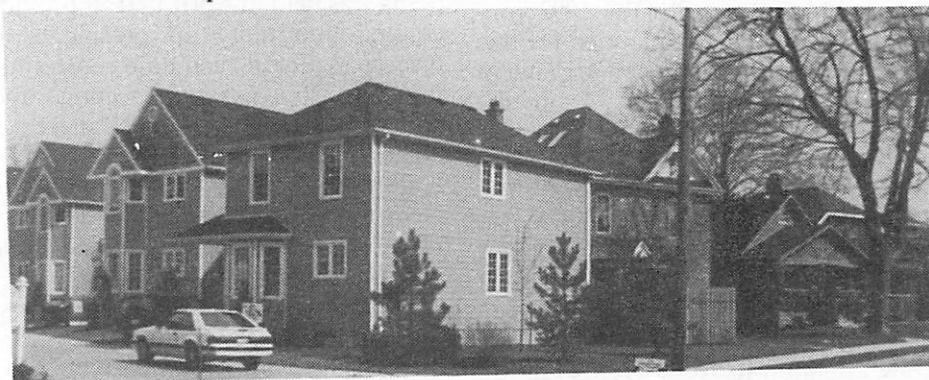
Alec Keefer, President, spoke about infilling in Toronto. He showed some slides and pointed out the high vacancy rate in buildings on the floors over the commercial ground floor. This space could be used for apartments, and therefore qualifies as intensification.

LONDON REGION

Michael Baker, President, gave an illustrated talk on infill in London. Townhouse infill has taken place on some deep lots by fitting the buildings in sideways.

HERITAGE OXFORD

Jack Hedges, President, talked about the Inventory of Heritage Trees in Woodstock. A new road through the Village of Otterville will result in the loss of eighty 100-year-old trees. The people of the village are opposed to this.



Garfield Place infill in south London.

Michael Baker

PORT HOPE

Sue Gardner, President, thanked everyone who had worked so hard in arranging the Conference and Annual Meeting.

Marg Rowell

Branch Reports

Port Hope

THE CAPITOL THEATRE

When in 1928 the Royal Theatre, over the Royal Bank, was closed by Government order, its manager, Stuart Smart, immediately began a campaign to find a home for the new "talkies".

Around 1930 he purchased a fish shop on Queen Street for \$10,000, obtaining the rights to the use of land behind the nearby shops. The owners of these shops received life-time passes to the theatre when it was built.

The theatre was designed by Murray Brown, an English architect located in Toronto, and who was responsible for several Famous Players Theatres in Canada.

Construction was carried out by Thomas Garnet and Sons of Port Hope. It is one of the first movie theatres in Canada built specifically for the talkies, and is one of the last remaining "atmospheric theatres" of its type in Canada. It is patterned after a medieval

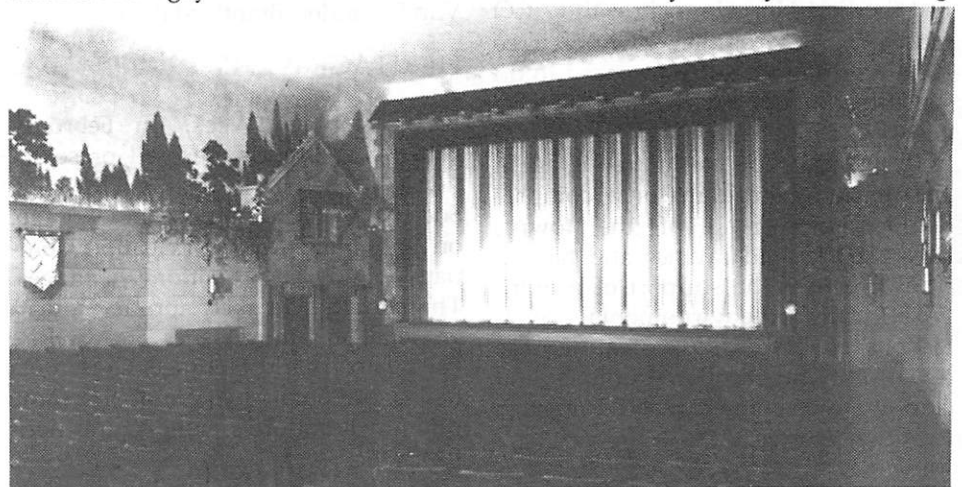
English garden surrounded by a high stone wall. Stars were painted on the ceiling and clouds moved across the night sky. The Capitol was closed in 1987.

To save and re-open the theatre, The Capitol Theatre Foundation was formed. At a crowded meeting held at the Carlyle Inn in Port Hope on March 31, members of the Foundation elected their first Board of Directors. A legal committee has applied for Letters of Incorporation. Downtown property and business owners have already made a substantial financial commitment as has the local branch of the ACO.

A fund-raising campaign will begin in May. For background information call Don Rumgay at 1-416-885-5355.

REDRESSING THE BALANCE

In commemoration of the Bicentennial of settlement of Hope Township in 1992, some 180 seedlings were planted within the township; a further 156 trees (both native and flowering) were planted during April through the auspices of the Port Hope branch of the ACO and other local organizations, both within the Township and the town of Port Hope itself, in what turned out to be the largest "Planting Bee" since 1879. Indeed, a By-law enacted in that year stated that "... any person who plants a tree or trees on the side of the highway in such places directed by the Pathmaster, and protects such trees from injury, so that at the end of the year they are in thriving



Capitol Theatre Interior, Port Hope
Michael Wallace, Photographer, Port Hope

TREE PLANTING AT BARNUM HOUSE

Several members of the ACO sit on the Board of Barnum House Museum Foundation. The members have contributed to the beginnings of the long term Heritage Garden Plan.

On April 22, Earth Day, thirteen municipalities, villages and towns within the county of Northumberland, participated in planting trees. Lombardy poplars, thought to have been planted in the 1830s on the Barnum House property, were replanted on this occasion.

Next year the garden surrounding the house will be planted: a recreation as opposed to a restoration of Barnum House gardens. In the words of one member, because plants outlast all of us, it will be a forever garden, beside a forever house.

Marion Garland

condition, shall be entitled to one day of statute labour struck off for every ten trees planted". I am please to report that many of the aforesaid trees survived their first winter, alas, the vagaries of nature forced most of the planters to spend more than one day of enforced shovelling of snow rather than a day of statutory leisure!

Unfortunately the vast amounts of snow and ice this winter has resulted in severe loss of mature trees both in the Town and Township, indeed within the town alone it is estimated that 43% of the trees and shrubs suffered some kind of permanent, if not terminal, damage. At this rate of loss, by the turn of the century, the face of Port Hope will be greatly changed for the worse; already there is a very noticeable change along the graceful tree-lined streets and sylvan glens that are a walkers delight and a birdwatchers paradise. Ecologically it would be supreme folly not to redress the balance



Capitol Theatre Exterior, Port Hope
Michael Wallace, Photographer, Port Hope

of nature, indeed, we owe it, as part of our legacy, to future generations of residents to do so. Even within our own lifetimes, the rate of attrition which we have permitted our utility companies, developers and uncaring residents to abuse and squander our magnificent tree cover is positively shameful. Port Hope is by no means the only culprit in its crimes against nature, for if the records and conscience of virtually every town in Ontario were examined the story of loss would be much the same. The difference being that Port Hope's loss is that much more apparent for due to the accidents of topography our town once had undiminished coverage incorporating many magnificent specimen trees.

Another difference being the fact that the Port Hope branch of the ACO through its Environment Watch & Tree Planting Committee **IS** prepared to do something about redressing the balance.

To that end, the committee is again spearheading the plan for a comprehensive re-greening of the towns, streets, parks and ravines and has already received the support of a number of concerned environmental organizations, as well as creating the opportunity for the Town Council and citizens to become involved in this worthwhile project.

Darrell G. Leeson

Brant County

SUCCESSSES IN BRANT

Brant has had a good few months in heritage conservation. Three major successes came our way (as a result of a great deal of hard work) in the space of a week. Since the object of this issue of ACORN is not to go into detail on these successes, we will include here only a bare mention, with greater detail to follow in later issues.

In 1835, John Thomas built his home, a highly unique Regency/Loyalist cottage at a place later to be called Cainsville. Cainsville, still later, became the eastern part of Brantford. This house suffered many indignities over the years, but its lineage remained evident to most of us. In later 1992, a developer, David Van Elslander, acquired the property. His goal was to demolish the house and put forty-eight condominium units on the site. When it was

pointed out to him that the house had great value, he offered it - free - to the City, plus twenty-five thousand dollars toward the cost of moving plus six months to get it off the site. We missed by five days, but Dave was generous, and the house - in two parts - left the site on April fifth at about eight-thirty a.m.

Another article on the Thomas House, with much detail and effusive credits will come soon. For the moment, let us say that the Thomas House has been saved. Many people helped to make this a success, but one man held the key to success. It is through his cooperation and generosity that the house is now intact and starting life in a new locale. Our nomination for Heritage Hero goes to David Van Elslander, Brantford developer.

HERITAGE WEEK

For Heritage Week, on February 20th, ACO Brant sponsored presentations, at the Brant County Historical Society, on Brant's Industrial Heritage; on the Grand River Navigation Company, and on Brantford Cottages. These topics will likely appear in greater detail in future issues of ACORN. Friends of World Heritage: Grassroots had a presentation there at the same time on Brantford's architectural heritage.

On the same day, in the evening, ACO Brant also sponsored a presentation by Sheila Ferguson on the life of Pauline Johnson. Proceeds from this function are being used for the restoration of Chiefswood - Pauline Johnson's childhood home - the only Regency Manor House on a Native Reserve in Canada. The restoration work has started! Heritage success number two.

SAINT BASIL

The Saint Basil project has also started. Through this, two derelict old schools will have their original external appearance fully restored. Although they will still have their external designation as separate schools of the first quarter of the twentieth century, they will provide thirty-two units of housing on the inside. Heritage success number three.

As we pat ourselves on the back for saving Saint Basil's and Saint Ann's Schools, we are sobered by the loss of the old Saint Joseph's Convent between them. In deference to the impor-

tance of the automobile, this solid and rather attractive old building came down to meet a local by-law requirement for on-site parking. This, in turn, had another bright facet. Before the site was fully cleared, at least three houses had been built using its materials, and were already occupied (in the Elmira area).



St. Joseph's Convent, Brantford.
Demolished for St. Basil's Housing Project.
Michael Keefe

FACTORY DEMOLITION

Of course, life is not all successes. The factory where Alexander Graham Bell had his first telephone equipment manufactured was demolished to provide parking for a downtown merchant, through what can only be described as a series of blunders compounding a lack of will. The building had been plagued within the past twenty years, but somebody had removed the plaque and when application was made for a demolition permit, there was no on-site evidence of historical worth, and the building came down.

Michael Keefe

Heritage Cambridge

HERITAGE CAMBRIDGE MAKES PITCH TO BRONFMAN FOUNDATION

Finding money for heritage projects is like looking for a needle in a haystack, but a proposal put together by Heritage Cambridge director Brian Reid may prove to be the magnet needed to fund production of the new "how to" manual.

Reid has made a concise and poignant proposal for the Samuel and Sadye Bronfman Family Foundation and its urban issues program.

The 10-page pitch highlights the fight to save the Old Galt Hospital, what went wrong, and what might be done in future to save buildings threatened with a similar fate in communities across Canada.

Armed with a copy of "Defending The Past - A Citizen's Guide To Preserving Local Heritage", heritage groups will be able to learn from the mistakes of the past and better battle those who would destroy our historical roots.

"The manual's purpose is to outline the rights, tools, support agencies and other resources that can be brought to bear in these disputes and to demonstrate ways of forming and managing effective citizen's groups to defend the local heritage. Another important objective of this project is to lower the emotional pitch of the typical heritage battles by showing volunteer community groups how to focus on issues, responsibilities and solutions," Reid said in the proposal.

The manual, which will cover heritage law, resources available, organizing a community group, press and promotion, legal options, solutions, proactive education and trouble shooting has an estimated price tag of \$14,000. The 200-page manual could see 1,000 copies produced under the plan, which would be distributed free to public libraries.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Preliminary meetings have been held over the past month with Cambridge videographer Andy Kohl to plan for the production of a 10-minute Heritage documentary focused on Cambridge and the importance of preserving our past.

The idea still in its developing stages is to produce the video as a promotional and educational tool which can be used anywhere in the province to show the non-believers the importance of preserving our heritage buildings and landmarks for future generations.

The project has an estimated price tag of approximately \$8,000 and will include tape already shot of the Old Galt Hospital.

A committee made up of Lynda Schneider and Ray Martin are continuing to work on the project and will be reporting to the board on an ongoing basis.

Lynda Schneider

North Waterloo Region

To celebrate Heritage Day In February our Branch mounted a display of the area's industrial architecture at a Heritage Showcase sponsored by the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation, in Conestoga Mall. Two of our executive members, Robert Coe and Art Gorman have a particular interest in this subject and did an excellent job of researching the industries, getting old photos and up-to-date ones, and preparing maps and a lengthy report on the industries.

The following is a brief overview of some of the area's industrial history and architecture.

Marg Rowell

THE INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE OF KITCHENER-WATERLOO

When the Grand Trunk Railway laid its tracks through Berlin (Kitchener) in 1856 on the way west to the American border, it gave this small industrious village a decided business advantage over Waterloo, its neighbour to the north. Waterloo in the 1850s had two gristmills, a distillery, two foundries, a chair factory, a brewery and a sawmill. So it was, even then, a thriving community which could have benefitted greatly from a rail connection to the rest of Canada and to the U.S. The potential of the railway was not realized immediately in Berlin because at that time most business activity was clustered around Queen Street, some distance south from where the line crossed King Street. However, a flurry of land speculation did occur in the area to the north of the tracks and this would eventually provide sites for factories and houses when the local economy started to expand in the 1870s. Both Berlin and Waterloo prospered in this period before World War I, but faster growth and greater diversification in Berlin became readily apparent during the early 1900s when the community could boast of 70 medium and large sized factories compared to the 18 significant factories in Waterloo. Both towns, however, were ranked among the most industrialized communities in Ontario, with high proportions of the population employed in local factories (29.2% in Berlin, in 1915 - 26.4% in Waterloo in 1901). Industry dominated Berlin's urban economy

more than in any other major Canadian city with populations over 15,000. In spite of the lingering rivalry between the two centres, Waterloo and Berlin, renamed Kitchener in 1916, became, in fact one large urbanized area having certain local differences in character and layout inherited from earlier industrial development. Industrial Waterloo clustered around the central core of the city whereas factories in Kitchener were scattered throughout the city or lined up along the railway main line. In the early days this created a very convenient relationship between employee housing and their places of work. However, civic pride in smokestacks and factories as symbols of prosperity began to change so that as early as 1912, there were motions towards city plans in Kitchener which would separate industry, commerce and dwellings in any future developments. This "rational" planning which became common North American practice, particularly after the Second World War led to much wasted space and time in suburban sprawl and city planners are now seeking ways to integrate people more closely with their places of business, shopping and living - somewhat like the human scale of the urban environment Kitchener enjoyed in the first place.

For those interested in heritage industrial architecture there are a gratifying number of notable examples still in existence in Kitchener-Waterloo. Although many have been modified in one way or another over the years and many are of course no longer used for their original purpose, there are some which still serve the useful purpose for which they were built. The Krug Furniture factory, 1887, erected on Breithaupt Street across the tracks from the imposing Berlin Station, is still producing furniture in a yellow brick, multi-storey building typical of the industrial style of the late 19th century. The pleasant aroma of wood being worked is still part of the character of the building. In Waterloo, the Roschman Button factory built in 1886 on Queen Street (now 25 Regina St. S.) is a well-proportioned and nicely detailed example of a medium sized factory of the period. Fortunately this building has been designated as an architecturally significant landmark and will be preserved. Another button factory of interest is the one that Emil Vogelsang built in 1877 at the corner of what is

now Queen Street and Courtland Avenue in Kitchener. Interesting because not only has this eloquent brick building from the past not been torn down to be replaced by something forgettable in cast concrete, but it has been given new life fitted out with a modern apartment interior.

Two buildings of note which illustrate the changes taking place in the style of industrial architecture during the early years of the 20th century are Kaufman Rubber Co. factory, 1907, on King Street and the Dominion Tire Plant, 1914, (now Uniroyal), erected on Strange Street. Both these structures were designed by the well-known Chicago architect Albert Kahn. Although designed in multi-stories as older buildings had been, to make use of gravity in production flow, these new buildings were quite different, in that steel beams and steel reinforced concrete did away with load bearing outer walls with their narrow windows and allowed huge areas of glass (small panes though as float glass had not yet been perfected) to flood the interior with natural light.

Unfortunately the distillery is no longer in operation at this site and already some of the more recent buildings have been demolished. There is, however, an interesting museum located on site in a converted warehouse, which is well worth a visit. Nearby, on the Seagram property there is a building, presently converted to modern office use, which at one time was the home of the Waterloo Manufacturing Co. which produced agricultural machinery of various kinds as well as steam tractors; some of the latter still to be seen at fall fairs around the province.

There is also an interesting example of the once common clerestory roof style building on the site, which unfortunately will be demolished after the roof is removed to allow for the removal of large brew kettles.

Globe Furniture, Boehmer Box Co., Lang Tannery, Williams Greene & Rome (Cluett-Peabody), manufacturers of Arrow Shirts, Huether's Brewery and Malthouse, and many others were, like those previously noted, prominent manufacturing businesses whose

London Branch

20TH EDITION OF LONDON'S "GERANIUM WALK"

On June 6, 1993 the London Region Branch presented the 20th edition of its walking tour of heritage properties in London. It was called the "Geranium Walk" because planters with these showy summer flowers were selected to mark the properties which are open to the public, and this tradition has continued. The afternoon of the first Sunday in June is the date each year, with about 600 tickets sold at \$10.00 per person. The main objective is to demonstrate successful heritage preservation and to educate the public about the value of preserving various architectural styles and the context of the neighbourhood. The public response has always been good and the weather, it seems, invariably sunny and warm.

This year the walk returned to the St. James School and St. George Street area on the west side of North London. Included were a variety of houses from the late 1800s to 1930. Of particular note were the 1886 Stick Style former home of J.H. Carling, president of the Carling Brewery and the grandson of its founder, located on Grosvenor Street and the 1909 Queen Anne home of the Lawson family and once the home of the Honourable Ray Lawson, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

Last year the walk featured London South which developed as a suburb of London starting about 1850, amalgamating with the city in 1890.

The 1899 London Normal School at 165 Elmwood Avenue, carefully restored in 1985 as the Monsignor Feehey Centre for Catholic Education, was the starting point. The Romanesque Revival composition in brick with stone highlights, a 132 foot tower and a precious open space faced on three sides by houses is an important neighbourhood landmark.

One of the adjacent homes at 30 Marley Place was originally owned by the second principal of the Normal School - Samuel Radcliffe - from 1909 to 1918 and subsequently by the third principal - John Dearness - who lived there for thirty five years. The exterior features a prominent half timbered gable with an oriel window over a pedimented square porch supported by eight columns as well as a bay window. The



Kaufman Rubber Company, King Street, Kitchener
Robert Coo

The Joseph E. Seagram Distillery complex in Waterloo Region began as a gristmill in 1857 and produced whiskey on the side.

Joseph Seagram had bought the controlling interests by the early 1870s. Many additions and changes to the buildings have taken place since then to become a fascinating example of the rather specialized structures required in the distillery business.

buildings have become part of the industrial heritage of Kitchener-Waterloo.

Robert Coo



36 Grosvenor Street. Built 1886.

Howard Pulver

interior shows fine woodwork of oak and cherry in archways, wainscoting, panelling and doors.

194 Elmwood Avenue is an unusual 1914 red brick and decorative wood shingle Romanesque house with a tower and arched entryway.

195 Elmwood is a two and one half storey side hall buff brick house typical of the Italinat style. It was designed by architect George F. Durand and built in 1855.

Further east at 36 Grand Avenue is "Idlewyld" the 1879 estate of C.S. Hyman proprietor of the Hyman Tannery, mayor of London, member of parliament and cabinet minister. This heavily ornamented Queen Anne mansion with two later additions has been restored for the Someplace(s) Different chain of inns. Eastlake style decoration extends throughout the interior including the stairway, mantlepieces and window and door surrounds.

Associated with the William Hunter family, who provided horse drawn transportation to London before the advent of street cars in 1889, 87 Askin Street is an 1890 buff brick multigabled Victorian with an ornate porch addressing the corner location. Currently operated as a bed and breakfast, the interior has been extensively restored.

50 Bruce Street is an 1874 modest Italiante frame cottage with decorative eave brackets, cornice frieze and gable plus a reconstructed front porch by London architect Pat Coles.

Tea was available at Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, 111 Elmwood Avenue. The church which was opened in 1926 is built to the west of

the 1877 "Woodlawn" estate of Colonel F.B. Leys, the first manager of London's Dominion Savings and Investment Society. Leys was elected to the Provincial Legislature from 1898 to 1902 defeating Adam Beck for that term following the Liberal government decision to build a normal school in London.

Howard Pulver



50 Bruce Street, London. Built 1874.

Howard Pulver

Rebellion - Period House Faces Uncertain Future

The Gapper-Duncan House, an 1828 Georgian tradition farmhouse in Richmond-Hill is currently up for sale on a site with redevelopment potential. Designated under the Ontario Heritage Act in 1991, the house stands in an incomplete state of renovation.

The substantial two-storey frame dwelling was built by Richard Colston Gapper, a half-pay officer in the British army and veteran of the Napoleonic Wars. Relocated from its original site on Yonge Street in the late 1950s, the house at 231 Duncan Road remains on a portion of Lot 40, Concession 1, in the former Township of Markham.

Although the house had been listed in Richmond Hill LACAC's *Inventory of Buildings of Architectural and Historical Interest* since the mid 1980s, its remarkable history and significance as an exceptional architectural landmark were not discovered until 1989. Research in support of an *Inventory* update revealed that the building of the

Gapper-Duncan House was documented in *The Journals of Mary O'Brien, 1828-1838*. O'Brien was Richard Gapper's married sister.

Mary O'Brien's journals recorded the date of construction of the house, and provided numerous details of the family's early days there. While awaiting the arrival of furniture, some shipped from England, conditions were somewhat primitive:

"A pair of carpenter's trestles which supported two slabs formed their table, two chairs and a tea kettle completed the furniture of the room ..."

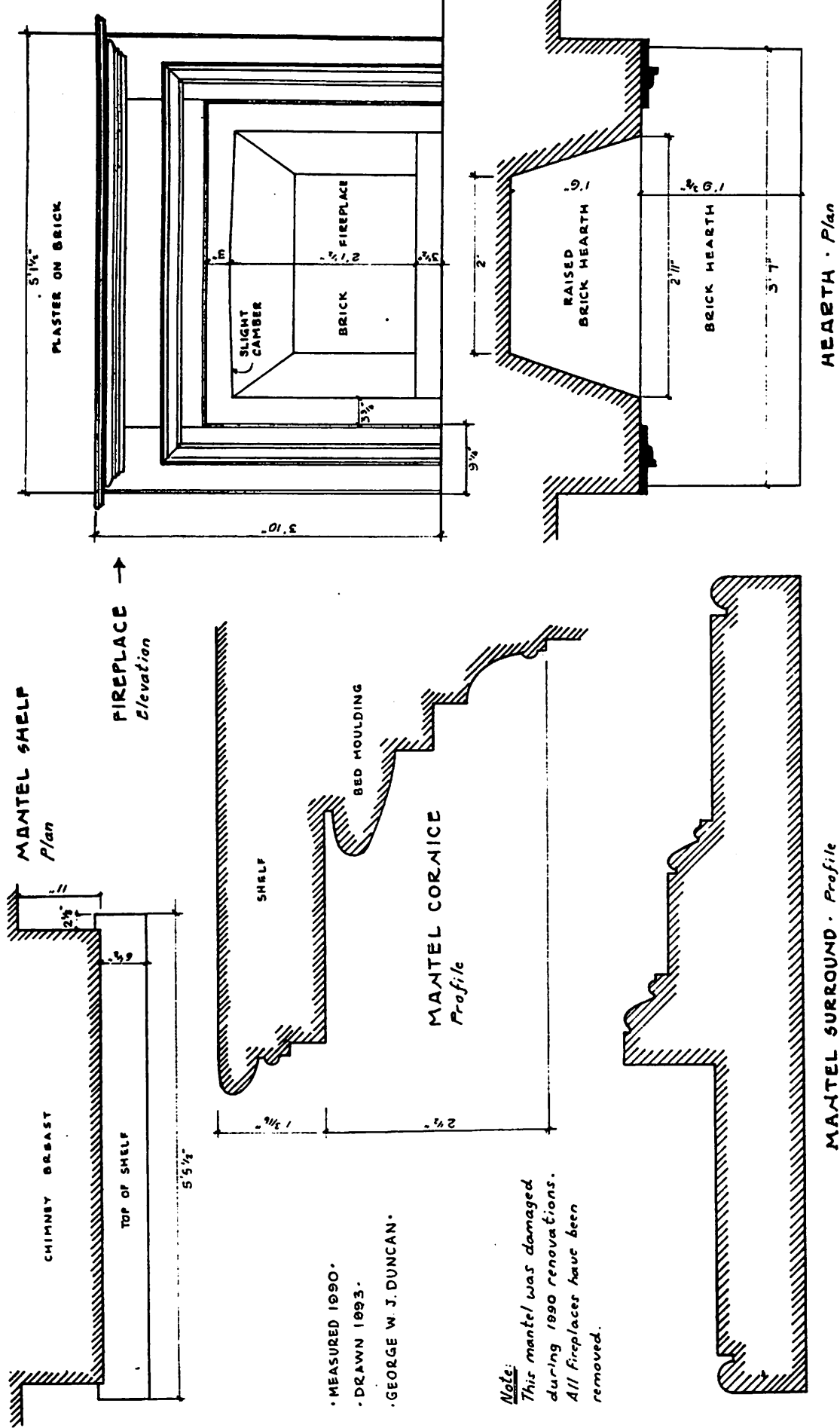
Richard Gapper's Tory politics and social connections with the Family Compact placed him at odds with William Lyon Mackenzie and his reform-oriented political ambitions. Gapper's involvement as a director of the Home District Agricultural Society was challenged by Mackenzie, and the ill-will between the two was further aggravated through Gapper's attempts to undermine Mackenzie's efforts to be elected as a member of the Legislative Assembly.

In 1852, Richard Gapper and his wife returned to their native England, and sold their property to farmer William Duncan. Perhaps the Gappers had become disenchanted with Upper Canadian politics once some of Mackenzie's reform ideas had been implemented.

Architecturally, the Gapper-Duncan House has a typical Georgian form, expressed in its rectangular plan, balanced 3-bay facade, hip roof and formal entrance. Although the exterior is decidedly simple, the sidelighted door-case, centre hall plan, generous room sizes and refined interior detailing reflect a sophisticated level of design.

The exterior of the house has been somewhat altered over time (compare the early and recent photographs), but when LACAC initially examined the interior, many of the early details were present and in an excellent state of preservation. Even the small brass knobs of the bathroom door rim latches remained in place.

The straight-run open string staircase, with its lightly proportioned turned newel, moulded handrail and square balusters, was particularly striking. Interior mouldings, following the style of the 1820s period, were small scaled and decorated with a steep ovolo and astragal profile.



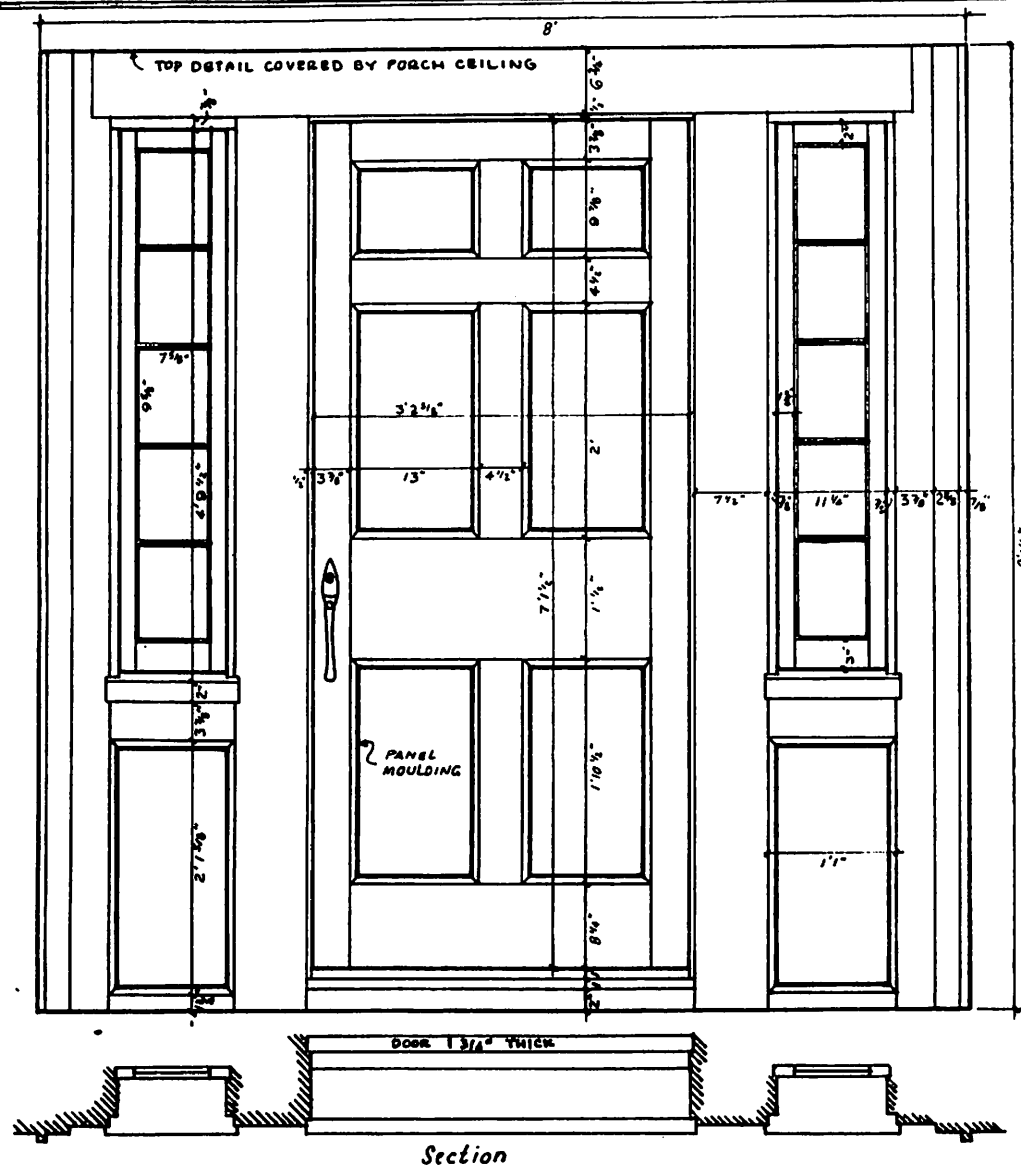
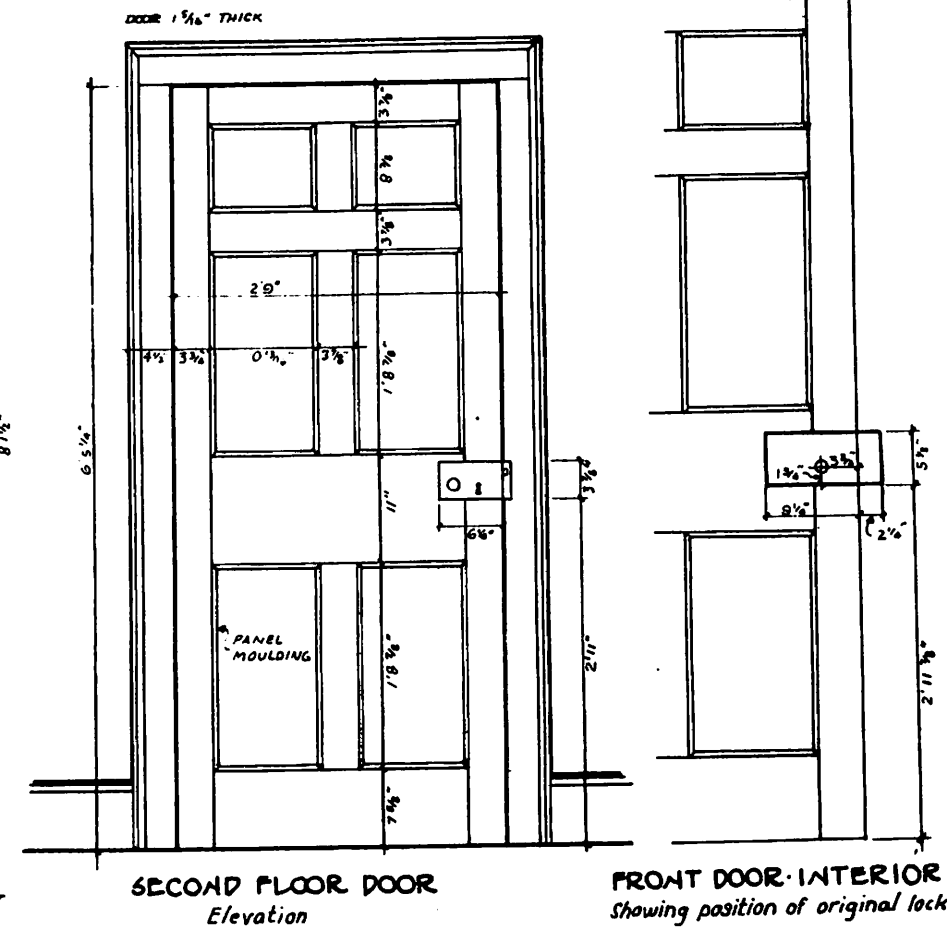
• MEASURED 1890.
• DRAWN 1893.
• GEORGE W. J. DUNCAN.

Note:
This mantel was damaged
during 1890 renovations.
All fireplaces have been
removed.

BEDROOM FIREPLACE • RICHARD C. GAPPER HOUSE • 1828 • 231 PUNCAH ROAD
LOT 40, CONCESSION 1, MARKHAM • NOW TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL •

MEASURED 1890 • DRAWN 1893 • GEORGE W. J. DUNCAN •

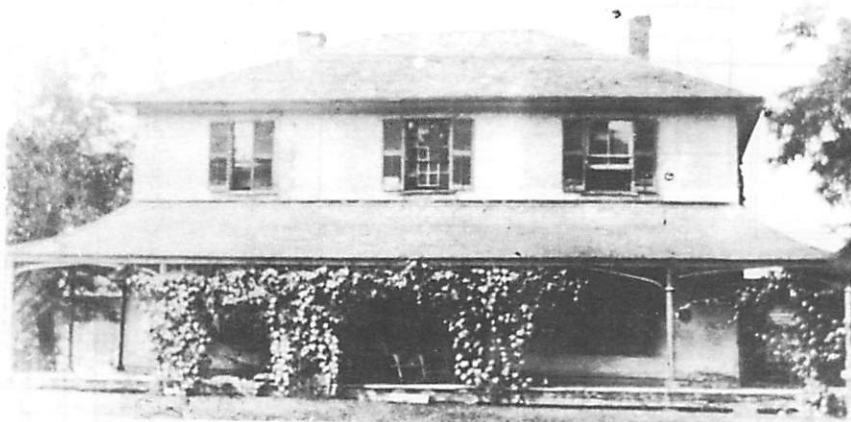
FRONT DOOR
Elevation



Panel moulding - exterior Panel moulding - interior

DETAILS • RICHARD C. GAPPER HOUSE • 1828 • 231 DUNCAN ROAD •
LOT 40, CONCESSION 1, MARKHAM • NOW TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL •

0 1 2 3 feet scale for elevations
0 1 2 inches scale for mouldings



Turn of the Century photo of the Gapper Duncan House.
Note bellcast verandah, a Regency-inspired feature.

Richmond Hill Public Library

There were four fireplaces with original mantels in place prior to some unfortunate renovations, which resulted in the stripping of most of the interior details. The mantel in the dining room was exceptional. It was constructed of black walnut, with fluted Doric columns supporting a panelled entablature. A smaller mantel in one of the upstairs bedrooms had a mitred surround in the Late Georgian manner.

Prior to the renovations, which were done to prepare for a doctors' office conversion, LACAC thoroughly documented the significant features. Unfortunately, the designation did not include the interior.

On the positive side, two mantels were rescued by LACAC and are being held in storage for possible reinstallation in the building. In addition, the staircase remains, as well as a quantity of trim and several doors.

Hopefully, a buyer sympathetic to the special significance of the Gapper-Duncan House can be found. This building is one of the few remaining sites connected with the 1837 Rebellion, and as such, is an irreplaceable piece of Canadian history.

George W.J. Duncan

Hidden Treasures Bus Tour, 3rd - 6th June, 1993

Although the number of people registering was disappointing, the tour itself was a great success. The Toronto group met up with the group from London and travelled on to Windsor on Thursday evening, staying at the University of Windsor's Cartier Hall on Thursday and Friday nights.

Friday morning was dull to start with but later the sun came out. Thus we were able to enjoy a tour of Willisstead Manor designed by Albert Khan for Edward Chandler Walker in 1904, and later a walking tour of the surrounding area. We saw several houses designed by Albert Khan and an extensive area developed by Hiram Walker for his employees. From there we proceeded to the Art Gallery housed in a recycled Walker's warehouse; an expertly carried out and imaginative project. Because of its sturdy foundations and structure, there is talk of "lending" the gallery to the Casino (which also needs sturdy structures to support its

equipment) for a couple of years while a proper Casino building is being built. After lunch at the Art Gallery we went to Amherstburg to look at Christ Church (Anglican) dating from 1819 and the Park House museum, described as "the oldest house within a radius of 250 miles". Built c1796, it was moved first from Detroit and then from another site in Amherstburg. Back to Windsor to look at the restored and recycled MacKenzie Hall, which was the court house until 1963, and the Duff-Baby House (c1798). Although the roof of the Duff-Baby House was restored some years ago and studies have been carried out the house could be a tragedy in the making - it cannot last much longer without help. After an evening meal we visited the Capitol Theatre, currently being given a face lift before it is used as a performing arts centre.

Saturday was again dull in the morning but mercifully did not rain when we were viewing the magnificent Hiram Walker offices (1894), which also show the influence of Albert Khan. Magnificent as the terracotta exterior is, the tour of the offices was a revelation of expert craftsmanship and subsequent loving care. From there we travelled by Hwy 3 to Sparta, an early Quaker settlement which has recently become a tourist attraction. The rain grew heavier as we travelled - fortunate, perhaps, or we would have stopped to photograph houses, textbook examples of many nineteenth century styles, and been late for dinner. We did stop for lunch at Knox Presbyterian Church (1828) in New Glasgow, at Pierce Park at Tyrconnell, with its beautiful beech and maple woods, at the nearby cemetery where Thomas Talbot is buried, and at Southwold Indian Village near Iona, and briefly viewed a house in Fingal where the wood cladding has been grooved to give an excellent imitation of stone (shades of Ostankino Palace in Moscow and its marble impression).

After dinner in Sparta we drove to Aylmer past an isolated example of a house built from cobblestones, the stones sorted by size and angled like those in the best cobblestone buildings in Paris. In Aylmer we toured "Belvedere" a private home, and the renovated and recycled Town Hall which had a narrow escape from destruction when the new town hall was built. Then on to London to overnight in the



231 Duncan Rd. Taken in 1990. The essential form of the exterior has remained intact, in spite of later additions.

Richmond Hill LACAC

restored Hayman House near the Western Fairgrounds.

On Sunday morning the Toronto contingent travelled to St. Thomas to look through the 1822 church of St. Thomas (which gave its name to the city rather than vice versa) a gem which is now fully restored, and at some of the lovely old homes in the city and the imposing New York central Railway station. After lunching in a restaurant housed in an 1850s building, we returned to London to take part in the London Branch's 20th Annual Geranium Walk with seven houses open. As usual, it was completely sold out in spite of the fact that it is always held on the same weekend as the London Air Show. Everywhere we went, we were embarrassed by the kindness of our local guides.

Julia Beck

Coming Events

ACO BUS TOUR

Labour Day Weekend, Friday September 3-Monday, September 6, 1993. A Tour Down Historic Highway 2 - Cornwall to Belleville. Branch Presidents will have more detailed information by the end of July.

HERITAGE CAMBRIDGE HOUSE TOUR

Saturday, October 16, 1993. For further information contact Alison Jackson, 519-621-5894.

WORKSHOP SERIES EXPLORES ONTARIO'S INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

The Ontario Historical Society, with support from the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation, has designed a series of workshops to examine our province's industrial heritage. Each programme focuses on preserving, interpreting, evaluating and managing these important community resources. The local perspective is examined in each community, and actual case studies are used to illustrate the theme.

Saturday, September 18, Sudbury: Sudbury City Hall, 200 Brady Street, co-sponsored with the Sudbury LACAC (site to be confirmed).

Saturday, October 16, Cornwall: The Old Cotton Mill, Cornwall Warehousing Ltd., co-sponsored with the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario and Cornwall LACAC.

Saturday, October 30, Toronto: Todmorden Mills Heritage Museum and Arts Centre, 67 Pottery Road, East York; co-sponsored with the museum and East York LACAC.

Saturday, November 20, Windsor: Mackenzie Hall, 3277 Sandwich Street; co-sponsored with the Essex County Historical Society.

Each workshop begins at 10:00 a.m. and concludes at 4:00 p.m. The registration fees are \$30.00 for members of a co-sponsor and \$40.00 for non-members. The fee includes lunch and a kit of resource materials. **YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE!** For further information, and registration forms, contact:

Lorraine Lowry,
Workshop Co-ordinator
The Ontario Historical Society
5151 Yonge Street
Willowdale, Ontario
M2N 5P5
Phone (416) 226-9011
Fax (416) 226-2740

Toronto 200

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 22-25: 200th Anniversary of the Founding of York at the Old Mill.

Events include music, canoe making demonstration, historical video, food. The Old Mill, (416) 236-2641.

July 30-September 26: Exhibit of Elizabeth Simcoe's drawings.

The Toronto Historical Board and the Art Gallery of Ontario present Elizabeth Simcoe's original drawings on birch bark. Art Gallery of Ontario. Call the Toronto Historical Board, (416) 392-6827.

August 1: Simcoe Day Walk

Starting near the site of Castle Frank, summer house of Simcoe, a guide will lead a walk through Rosedale and the Don Valley to explore Toronto's natural heritage. Sponsored by Toronto Field Naturalists. Meet at Castle Frank subway station, 11 a.m. (416) 968-6255.

August 1: Simcoe Celebration at Todmorden Mills

Event commemorates arrival of Simcoes to the Town of York includes military re-enactment, drills, marches, period crafts. Todmorden Mills Heritage Museum and Arts centre, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. (416) 425-2250.

August 2: Toronto 200 Birthday Bash in Nathan Phillips Square

Birthday bash with music and family entertainment hosted by John and Elizabeth Simcoe. Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Casa Loma. FREE. Nathan Phillips Square, (416) 392-1993.

August 6: Simcoe Tours, University of Toronto

John and Elizabeth Simcoe return to the university they helped to found in 1827 and give guided tours of the university. Start: Hart House, University of Toronto, 10:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m. (416) 978-5000.

September 18: Fort York Plaque Unveiling

Plaque commemorating Fort York's status as a national historic site will be unveiled by Federal Minister of the Environment, Metro Chairman and City of Toronto Mayor. Special programme by the 41st Regiment of Foot Corps of Drums. Fort York, 2:30 p.m. Phone: (416) 392-6827.

November 10: "Riding the Rails of the 1800s in 1993"

Illustrated slide show on railroading in Ontario. Gibson House, Phone: (416) 225-4421.

A CANADIAN HERITAGE FIRST: ICOMOS CANADA, HERITAGE CANADA, COMMUNITY HERITAGE ONTARIO TO HOLD JOINT CONFERENCES

Mark your calendar for November 11-14, 1993 and make your plans!

ICOMOS Canada, Heritage Canada and Community Heritage Ontario are joining together to present a major heritage event November 11-14, 1993 in Ottawa. The three organizations will hold their annual conferences and annual general meetings sequentially over a four day period and in the same locale.

ICOMOS Canada Congress '93: "Conservation in Tough Economic Times" will feature speakers from in-

ternational, national and provincial heritage scenes who will address the continued need for appropriate conservation on the international scene despite current economic conditions, and provide attendees with the opportunity of on-site workshops in the National Capital Region.

Heritage Canada will hold its 20th Anniversary Dinner and Awards Presentation and Annual General Meeting on November 12th and 13th respectively.

Community Heritage Ontario will present "Community Heritage: Strategies for Tomorrow" that will provide a province-wide forum for LACAC's and municipalities to identify common issues and needs relating to the transition to new heritage legislation in Ontario; and will familiarize participants with the proposals for the new legislation surrounding the issues of municipal heritage policy, advisory committees and the organization of heritage places.

The events of November 11-14, 1993 will be held at the following locations. The Conferences and Annual General Meetings are scheduled at the Canadian Museum of Nature, the Victoria Memorial Museum Building. The Heritage Canada 20th Anniversary Dinner and Awards Presentations, on the evening of November 12th will be held at the Château Laurier Hotel. The Community Heritage Ontario Reception, on the evening of November 13th, will be held at the Ottawa-Carleton Centre.

Join the partnership of ICOMOS Canada, Heritage Canada and Community Heritage Ontario in working together toward a vision and strategy for the future.

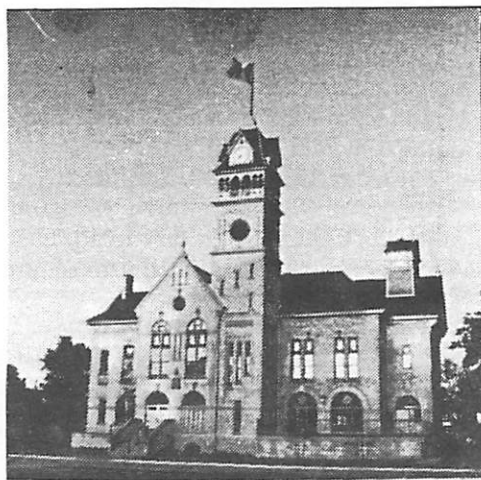
For further information please contact Mary Angela Tucker, Conference Committee, at (519) 352-4500 or fax (519) 436-3237.

Mary Angela Tucker

Around and About

VICTORIA HALL RESTORED

Petrolia's Victoria Hall was built in 1889 to celebrate Queen Victoria's 50th Birthday. George Durand, a renowned London architect, designed this building, which included the municipal offices, police station, jail, fire depart-



Victoria Hall, Petrolia
Petrolia LACAC

ment, council chambers and a famous opera house. It cost \$35,000.

In January 1989, the year of its centennial, this historically designated building was gutted by fire, leaving only its massive brick walls intact.

Today, thanks to the efforts of the community and its leaders, Victoria Hall has been restored to its original splendour at a cost of \$6.5 million. Once again the Hall is the place where the town "does its business," conducts council meetings and is available to the community for social and business activities. Its completely new interior houses a state-of-the-art, 450-seat theatre, home of the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia.

Gordon Tully
Town of Petrolia LACAC

CEMETERY CLOSURES

Burial sites in Ontario included plots on private land such as family farms. These small cemeteries were lovingly tended by many generations. However, at the end of the 20th century, they are threatened by closure.

Closure is the process of disinterring all the remains and moving them to a new location. The land ceases to be a cemetery. Changes of ownership as well as development pressures may mean an increased number of closures and the loss of these important cultural resources.

When a cemetery owner applies to the provincial Registrar, Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, for permission to close a cemetery, notice is given to various bodies, including the area LACAC. This notice provision is an opportunity for groups to make submissions to the registrar stat-

ing that closure may not be in the public interest. If permission is given for closure, it may happen quickly, before documentation can occur.

The Cemeteries Act of April 1, 1992, does not require cemetery owners to document the heritage features of the cemetery before it is closed. Also subtle heritage resources, such as plot and perimeter fencing, the burial patterns and landscape features, are usually not replicated when the bodies are moved to another cemetery.

Documentation is one means of mitigating the loss of cultural resource. Municipal heritage organizations might want to put a plan in place now for emergency documentation of those cemeteries that are not designated. For further information, contact the Architectural Conservation Unit, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation.

Gail Sussman
Educational/Technical Advisor
MCTR

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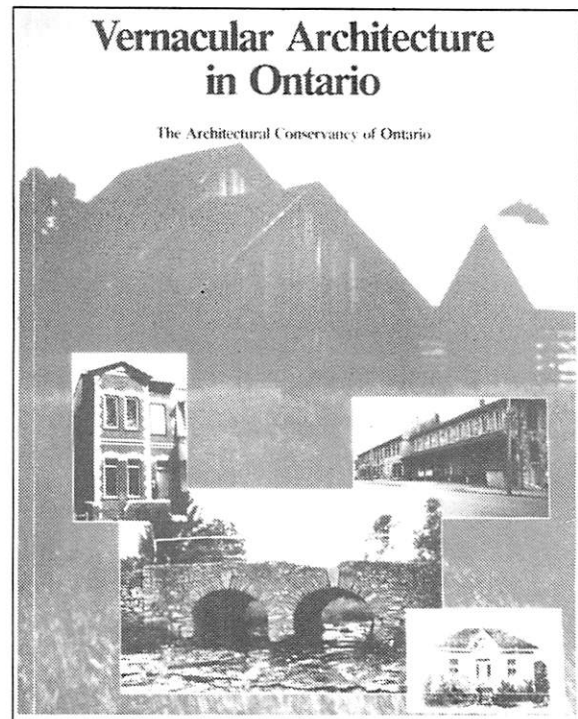
PUBLICATION

"Vernacular Architecture in Ontario".
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